



**DPS**

**Montgomery County  
Department of Permitting Services**

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## **Guidelines for Outdoor Circuits Feeding Heaters and Outdoor Loads**

1. All circuits feeding outdoors must have GFCI protection on the inside of the building. This allows the entire length of conductors feeding outside to be shut off in case of a ground fault.
2. Flexible cords must comply with Article 400 NEC 2017.
  - a. Flexible cords cannot be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.
  - b. Flexible cords cannot be run through holes in walls, structural ceilings, suspended ceilings, or floors.
  - c. Cannot be run through doorways windows or similar openings.
  - d. Cannot be concealed in walls.
  - e. Cannot be attached to building surface.
3. If a non-outdoor wiring method is used in the interior of the building, a change over to an outdoor rated wiring method must be done before exiting the building.
4. An in-use Nema 3R cover must be used for all receptacle and switch outlets located outdoors and must stand at least 1 foot above grade.
5. All outdoor equipment and electrical devices must be listed and approved for such use.
6. Circuits must be rated for loads served. Most heater circuits may have to be dedicated due to the size of the load.
7. Compliance with the 2017 National Electric Code is required.

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